(a) whether it is a fact that 50 leading companies from both India and abroad which are reported to have participated in the first week-long exhibition in New Delhi in "Water Technology—Water India 1993" exchanged the relevant technologies recently; if so, details thereof and outcome thereof; and

(b) what steps Government have taken so far for proper utilising conservation of water ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) An exhibition on water Storage Technology named, "Water-India-93" was held in Delhi from April 23-29, 1993. Fifty three Companies from India and abroad participated. Exchange of technology, by way of business worth Rs. 3.5 crores of the items, such as, generator sets, pump-sets, water filters, water meters, package plants, drip and fountain systems, water and waste water treatment plants and water testing kits took place during the exhibition.

(b) The Government has taken following steps for the conservation and proper utilisation of water :—

1. Public awareness to this effect is created by organising Water Resources Day every year throughout the country. Also by conducting adaptive trials, demonstrations and training under command area development programmes and training of farmers regarding proper irrigation management for promoting efficient use through Water and Land Management Institutes (WALMI) set up in twelve States, the objective is achieved.

2. A National Water Management Project was launched with the aim of ensuring predictable, reliable and equitable supply of irrigation water. The project is being carried out with the World Bank assistance in ten States and covers 84 projects.

3. The Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme which was initiated in 1974-75 is also aimed at proper utilisation and conservation of irrigation water. At present the programme is in operation in 167 projects spread over 20 States and two Union Territories.

4. Central assistance is also provided for selective lining of channels to prevent water losses in transit. Field drains are provided to prevent water logging. Conjunctive use of surface and ground water is also encouraged under command area development programme for proper utilisation and conservation of the scarce water resources.

Scheme for Water Testing Facilities for Delhi

1436. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that much publicised scheme of water testing facilities for Delhi's inhabitants have failed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that by the manner in which the men at the water-testing laboratories are going about their job, the arrangement seems to exist only on paper; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government's thereto and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve the work of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) As informed by Delhi Administration, four Zonal Water Testing Laboratories under Delhi Water Supply & Sewage Disposal Undertaking are collecting daily about 200 water samples from their respective zonal areas including rural areas to check on the water quality for its potability. The Zonal offices have been functioning during normal office hours to receive complaints from general public and to attend to them.

Besides this, the quality of water is also monitored by the Laboratory Staff of Water Treatment Plants every hour round the clock to ensure that the quality of water being supplied to the citizens of Delhi is of authorised standard.

Child Trafficking

1437. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trafficking in children leading to prostitution, is prevalent in the countries of South-East Asia and 400,000 children in the country have been made victims of such heinous trafficking; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to protect Indian Children from such exploitation and to rehabilitate those already victimised ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the floor of the house.

New Scheme for the Welfare of Street Children

1438. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 24th April, 1993 regarding a new scheme—"Welfare Plan for street children"; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the names of cities (Statewise) likely to be covered under the scheme and the budgetary provisions earmarked in the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme provides for non-formal education, vocational training, health check-up, nutrition and counselling to the disadvantaged, neglected and abused children. The scheme provides for implementation through voluntary organisations and monitoring through a City-level Task Force.

Eleven most populous cities have been selected during the current financial year. These are : Greater Bombay (Maharashtra), Calcutta (West Bengal), Delhi (Union Territory), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Bangalore (Karnataka), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Pune (Maharashtra), Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Nagpur (Maharashtra), and Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).